sector consisting of CPSUs. Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion adminsterd the scheme till 31.3.2001.

From the year 2001-2002, Department of Public Enterprises have introduced the scheme for Counselling, Retraining and Redeployment of rationalised employees of Central PSUs with an objective to reorient the rationalised employees of CPSUs through short duration training programmes to encourage them to avail of opportunities of self employment after their separation from the PSEs due to VRS or retrenchement due to closure of the enterprise. In order to have wide coverage of the scheme and its proper implementation at the national level, nodal agencies have been selected from different States to cater to the needs of the rationalised employees of the CPSUs. The training programme has already started.

Industrial Production

†2923. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have made an assessment of the growth rate of industrial production in the past months of current financial year;

(b) if so, the month-wise growth rate of industrial production during the period from April, 2001 to October, 2001; and

(c) whether this rate is satisfactory for the development of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN SINGH): (a) and (b) The Government regularly makes an assessment of the growth rate of industrial production measured in terms of growth in Index of Industrial Production (IIP), which is released every month by the Central Statistical Organisation. The month-wise

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

growth rates of industrial production from April, 2001 to October, 2001 is given below:

Month	Growth Rates (%)
April	2.6
May	1.7
June	2.7
July	2.6
August	2.7
September	1.6
October	1.9
April-October	2.2

(c) There is a slowdown in the growth rate of industrial production during the current fiscal year. The growth rate achieved so far is below the annual target of 8.2% fixed by the Planning Commission for industrial sector during the Ninth Plan period. The Government has taken measures to boost industrial production. These measures are targeted to improve competitiveness of Indian industry in general and to boost aggregate demand, improve infrastructure, upgrade technology, improve sentiments in the stock market, and to encourage FDI flows.

Import of Coconut

2924. PROF. A. LAKSHMISAGAR:
SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the annual report of coconut and its products stating the countries of import and the value (in foreign exchange);

(b) whether Government have made any study of the imapct of imports on the farmers in the Southern States and the falling prices of the indigenous products as a consequence;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and